

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00116 131435Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 CU-04 BIB-01 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /082 W  
-----006725 131535Z /46

R 131344Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4503  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
/AMEMBASSY SOFIA 2164  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0116

BELGRADE ALSO FOR CSCE

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: CSCE, SHUM, PINS, PINT  
SUBJECT: DISSIDENT APPEALS REJECTED

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REF PRAGUE 3032

1. AS DEPARTMENT WILL BE AWARE FROM PRESS REPORTS, CZECH SUPREME COURT JANUARY 12 CONSIDERED APPEALS OF ORNEST, LEDERER, PAVLICEK AND HAVEL O F THEIR CONVICTIONS LAST OCTOBER. COURT CONFIRMED CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES AS REPORTED REFTEL, EXCEPT THAT IN CASE OF ORNEST (WHO HAD APPEARED TWICE ON TV TO REGRET HIS ACTIONS) PRISON

SENTENCE WAS REDUCED BY ONE YEAR TO TWO AND ONE HALF YEARS, IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MEA CULPA, HEALTH AND AGE.

2. AT APAO FILM SHOWING JANUARY 12, WRITER IVAN KLIMA AND HIS WIFE ("SYMPATHIZERS" BUT NOT SIGNATORIES OF CHARTER 77) TOLD US THEY HAD PARTICIPATED IN JUST-ENDED LOCAL DISSIDENTS' 24-HOUR HUNGER STRIKE SEEKING REDUCTION OF SENTENCES. KLIMA TOLD DCM MANY EMIGRE CZECHS HAD SHOWN SOLIDARITY THROUGH THEIR OWN HUNGER STRIKES--FOR EXAMPLE AT VIENNA, WHERE HE THOUGHT A SIZEABLE NUMBER HAD GATHERED IN FRONT OF THE CEDOK TOURIST AGENCY OFFICE. KLIMA AND HIS WIFE BELIEVE GOC AUTHORITIES ARE ENTERING 1978 ANXIOUS TO MAINTAIN ORDER BUT "VERY UNCERTAIN" ABOUT PRECISE TACTICS THAT SHOULD BE PURSUED IN DEALING WITH CZECH HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS. ASKED WHETHER CURRENT RUMORS OF A RESHUFFLE OF CZECH FACTORY MANAGERS MEANT THE PARTY WAS TRYING MAINLY TO STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY--OR PERHAPS TO PURGE MANAGERS UNABLE TO RALLY ALL THEIR WORKERS AGAINST CHARTER 77--KLIMA THOUGHT THE GOAL WAS DEFINITELY TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY. HE AND HIS WIFE MADE A SPECIAL POINT OF EMPHASIZING TO DCM THEIR GRATITUDE FOR STANCE OF U.S. DELEGATION AT BELGRADE AND ITS SUPPORT FOR "OUR STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM".  
BYRNE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COURT DECISIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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